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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/04752 (22) International Filing Date: 3 March 1999 (03.03.99) (30) Priority Data: 60/076,705                      4 March 1998 (04.03.98)                      US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): 500 GROUP, INC. [US/US]; 1 Fawcett Place, Greenwich, CT 06830 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): TIRAMANI, Paolo, M., B. [GB/US]; 28 Dairy Road, Greenwich, CT 06830 (US). BOZAK, John, A. [US/US]; 159 East Elm Street, Greenwich, CT 06839 (US). FUDGE, Chester [US/US]; 320 George Street, Middleton, CT 06457 (US). HAM, Soohyun [KR/US]; 910 Hope Street, Stamford, CT 06907 (US). (74) Agent: RADACK, David, V.; Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, 44th floor, 600 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (US).		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  Published With international search report.	

(54) Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN HARD-SIDED LUGGAGE

## (57) Abstract

A hard-sided luggage article (20) which is made by blow molding process. The invention further provides a unique lid (24) having a double wall and a base (26) including a Z-beam (100) perimeter. A co-extrusion clip (120) is provided on the Z-beam (100), part of the co-extrusion clip (120) providing a color break and interlocks when the lid (24) is closed on the base (26). The blow molding process makes it possible to produce a hard-sided luggage article (20) with a trap-door lid (24). In this way, the parting line between the lid (24) and the base (26) does not extend around the entire sidewall of the case, thus providing a portion of the sidewall which can rest on the floor without the possibility of allowing leakage from a puddle, or the like, to infiltrate into the interior of the case.

